

## Board meeting MINUTES

<b>Meeting:</b>	NTSCB Board Meeting	<b>Date and time:</b>	25 March 2019 13:00 – 15:30		
<b>Location:</b>	Langdale Centre				
<b>Designated Board Members Name and job title</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	<b>No apologies</b>	<b>Deputy</b>
Richard Burrows (RB) Chair of the Board	Ind	√			
Angela Yilmaz (AY) Head Teacher – Riverside Primary School	Education - Schools	√			
Paul Weatherstone (PW) Head of North of Tyne National Probation Service	NPS		√		Sheila Askew Late arrival
Claire Paczko (CP)	NTC - Legal	√			
Chris Aitken (CR)	Lay Member		√		
Craig Anderson (CA) Policy, Performance and Research Manager	NTC		√		
David Baldwin (DB) Head Teacher – Norham High School and Churchill Community College	Education - Schools		√		
Ellie Anderson (EA) Assistant Director Business Assurance	NTC		√		
Ellie Monkhouse (EM) Executive Director of Nursing and Midwifery	NHCFT		√		Resigned, new representative TBC
Jane Scott (JS) Service Manager	NSPCC	√			Late arrival
Jacqui Old (JO) Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding	NTC		√		Julie Firth
Julie Firth (JF) Assistant Director, Children's Services	NTC	√			
Jan Hemingway (JH)	NHS North	√			

Designated Nurse	<b>Tyneside CCG</b>				
Jane Pickthall (JP) Head of The Virtual School	<b>NTC</b>	√			
Jill Prendergast (JPr) Lay Member	<b>Lay Member</b>		√		
Lesley Young-Murphy (LYM) (Vice Chair) Executive Director of Nursing & Transformation	<b>CCG</b>		√		Jan Hemingway
Martyn Strike (MS)	<b>CRC</b>		√		Kathryn Harrington
Martin Bewick (MB) Strategic Housing Manager	<b>NTC</b>	√			
Michael Vincent (MV) Designated Doctor Safeguarding Children	<b>NHCFT</b>	√			
Councillor Peter Earley (PE) NTC		√			
Pete Xeros (PX) YOT Operations Manager	<b>NTC</b>	√			
Steve Ammari (SA) Chief Superintendent	<b>Northumbria Police</b>		√		Eric Myers
Sharon Haggerty (SH) Deputy Director Nursing and Quality	<b>NHS England</b>				To receive minutes
Sue Burns (SB) NTSCB Business Manager	<b>NTC</b>	√			
Suzanne Armstrong (SA)	<b>Cafcass</b>	√			
Vida Morris (VM) Group Nursing Director - North	<b>NTW</b>	√			Late arrival
Wendy Burke (WB) Director of Public Health	<b>NTC</b>		√		
Julie McManus (JM) NTSCB Administrator	<b>NTSCB</b>	√			
Other attendees					
Deborah Alderson Det Sup (DA) for item 5.1	Northumbria Police				

Item		Action
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome and Apologies for Absence</b>	
	<b>Welcome and Apologies for Absence</b> RB welcomed members to the meeting. Apologies noted above.	
	<b>Declaration of Interest</b>  None declared	

	<p><b>Correspondence - Items of correspondence to note were highlighted as:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Children Skipping School</b> – agreed to be an agenda item at the May meeting</li> <li>• <b>NHS Long Term Plan</b> – RB asked members to read with safeguarding in mind</li> <li>• <b>New online system for safeguarding incidents</b></li> </ul>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes of last meeting held on 28 January 2019</b>	
	<p>JS stated she attended the meeting. JH stated she was representing LYM. JM to amend accordingly. The remainder of the minutes were accepted as a true record.</p> <p>SCR Kevin – RB asked when NTSCB would be updated on the learning outcomes. SB stated this information would be available following the next Case Review Group meeting.</p>	<b>JM</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>JTAI</b> – RB requested an update. JF stated that work is being carried out to identify the cohort and informed members of systems changes to allow this and using assessment categories. SB reported work on-going on a tool to help with the multi-agency audit. RB asked for further clarification on the cohort. JF explained the sub-categories which will be applied by staff and help them to identify cases. SB explained children and young people had been identified if they were already subject to a plan. JF informed the meeting that NTC CSC had managed to secure the services of a senior manager from York who had JTAI experience to work with them on the JTAI. RB thanked JF and summarised that it would be helpful for Board to be prepared for any JTAI.</li> <li>• <b>LADO</b> – RB asked JF to update the board . JF stated a full time LADO had been appointed as was in place and a quarterly report will come to the LSCB in the future. During the period of 1/12/18 – 15/3/19 there were 22 referrals from a variety of sources: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Police</li> <li>2. Fostering</li> <li>3. Ofsted – via childminder</li> <li>4. NTC CSC</li> </ol> <p>Identification of alleged perpetrator</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Foster carers</li> <li>2. Teachers</li> <li>3. Sports coach</li> </ol> <p>Primary cause</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Physical abuse</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	

	<p>2. Neglect 3. Emotional abuse</p> <p>Closed cases</p> <p>1. 1 x substantiated 2. 6 x unsubstantiated</p> <p>JF stated she was confident the report is given members the right information to be assured of the LADO role. RB thanked JF for the report and asked for it to be sent electronically to members. JF agreed that quarterly reports would be made available to enable progress to be monitored.</p> <p>AY stated it was important to ensure the benchmark/criteria remain the same.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>NHS England Annual Report</b> – RB thanks members for their comments. RB has written to them, following the routine follow up call and a further call is planned.</li> <li>• <b>QILP</b> – RB reminded members that the sub group has no chair at present and the risk register status will remain as red. SB stated this matter had been discussed at the recent QILP meeting and no one expressed an interest in the role. SB has contacted NHCFT and was informed of the staff changes taking place and they are looking to identify a person with appropriate experience. RB asked why the request was to NHCFT, SB replied stating all agencies had been asked and historically NHCFT had agreed to contribute staff resources as they do not make any financial contribution to the LSCB. However the vacancy is open to all partners. <b>RB advised members that sharing the roles we need was important. He advised the board that as a result of internal changes within NHCFT he was concerned to ensure that their continued support was confirmed generally and would be contacting their senior management to seek assurance of this.</b></li> </ul>	<p>JF</p>
<p>4</p>	<p><b>Standing Items</b></p>	
	<p><b>4.1 Financial Report</b> – SB presented the report and highlighted the underspend for the financial year which was due to the reduction in costs for the Trix regional procedures. SB stated any outstanding expenditure including any costs related to the SCR Claire/Sarah will be taken into account as an accrual in this year's accounts. SB commented on the regional procedures highlighting the main discrepancies in local procedures were related to dates of conferences. One issue remains unresolved related to transfer conferences where four of the LSCBs work the same way. SB reported this may delay implementation of the new arrangements. Local differences may remain and discussions are on-going. RB felt it was a positive sign that this was being addressed as cross area</p>	

consistency was important. SB continued to present the remainder of the report highlighting the proposed budget for 2019-20 stating NTC and Cafcass have confirmed their contribution and the CCG has confirmed 50% funding (from April to September). Police have yet to confirm their contribution. RB asked if reimbursement was possible for those agencies who have paid in full noting the ending of LSCB in September. He asked EM to make enquiries about the Police contribution. The provisional budget for 2019 April – September was agreed.

EM

**4.2.1 Children’s Social Care Transformation and Signs of Safety (SOS) – JF presented the Support for Children in Care with Complex Needs** highlighting the following areas:

- High quality, innovative services; PiP status confirmed in 2018 jointly with South Tyneside. Edge of Care pilot, NoT collaboration.
- Changing LAC rates; numbers are very stable in North Tyneside the rate remains higher than the national average but is the second lowest in the region.
- Children in Care cohort; unit costs are high and increasing but are the second lowest in the region.
- Key issues ; sourcing placements, health integration, schools cite increasing difficulties in managing behaviour
- Children with complex needs; at risk of CSE, males with risks around aggression, severe mental health issues, specialist disability needs e.g. ASD
- Trauma Informed Model; adverse childhood experiences; abuse, neglect and household dysfunction
- Edge of Care Services; JF explained that board member PX will be managing the service and described how it will work
- Keeping Families Connected; JF explained new service launched on 1<sup>st</sup> April will have three strands to the service, Prevent, Stabilise, Return using the SOS and a trauma informed approach. JF stated the responsibility will remain with the key worker. PX explained that seven FTEs will be staffing the service and negotiations are taking place with CAMHS and Health. JF stated the service is looking at a pool of staff for residential respite services to support families.
- Working with partner agencies; JF stated CAMHS is on board and negotiations continue with other key partners. PX stated this was a brand new service and they are taking a tapered approach to the three strands. The focus is on the crisis side and a pathway is in place to support the work.  
RB highlighted the relevance of this group of children to the NTSCB and the multi-agency approach. JF stated the outcomes as:

1. Family stability
2. Keeping children safe
3. Improving education
4. Health and wellbeing

PX stated the outcomes have been built into the system to allow meaningful data to be captured and reported upon. JF highlighted that the new service would also bring about cost savings.

- REHLAC Team: JF stated that board member JP manages this team. JP explained that this work has been carried out for many years and the focus is on whole family support
- DFE Pilot of Mental Health Assessments for LAC; North Tyneside is one of none pilot sites of a two year project. A new assessment tool is being developed. There will be joint working across RHELAC, CAMHS and CSC.
- Strategy and priorities; JF stated a draft version of the fostering framework was yet to be agreed as it is out to consultation with foster carers.

RB thanked JF for the comprehensive update and felt that it helped us to understand key developments that will impact on the protection of children and the promotion of their welfare, as well as our focus on scrutiny of joint working arrangements.

**4.2.2 TACT, Language that Cares** – JF explained the document shared with members proposed changes to the language used by professionals when talking about children in care. JF explained that young people in care had developed a glossary of terms. Discussions about this topic will take place at the Corporate Parenting Committee.

RB stated the document was a good read and queried if it could be extended to include child protection. SA asked for the presentation and TACT document to be circulated. There was a discussion as to whether there was more that could be considered in terms of shared terminology and language.

**JF/JM**

**4.3 Case Reviews** – JH updated members on the following cases:

- **SCR Claire/Anne (Sarah)**; JH highlighted that Sarah has asked to be known as Anne. The 4<sup>th</sup> draft of the independent reviewer's report has been received by the Review Panel and a date will be set shortly for what will hopefully be the final panel. RB stated the board had previously been made aware of concerns raised re the quality of the reports to date and the challenges in getting full and accurate information from some agencies.
- **SCR Harry** – JH reported on the initial meeting of the Review Team (as it will be known during this SCR) and the first practitioners' event took place on the 15<sup>th</sup> March. JH stated the independent reviewer in this case is Linda Richardson and together with the Review Team, is

	<p>completing the Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOE) for this review.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Croydon Thematic Review</b> – RB commented on the document as a useful read and explained the key messages re missing children, joint working and direction of travel for the future.</li> </ul>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Items for Scrutiny and Decision</b>	
	<p><b>5.1 Operation Encompass - The Next Steps;</b> RB introduced DA Detective Superintendent from Northumbria Police who presented the project to the board. RB reminded the Board that we had always supported Op E and it had been the subject of regular scrutiny. DA explained her role as the project director and the history of Operation Encompass. The Next Steps project will focus on prevention. Other points of the project were highlighted as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ PHSE guides across all key stages to be delivered via spiral curriculum.</li> <li>➤ Briefing developed for all key staff not just DSL's</li> <li>➤ School safeguarding liaison officers – 12 appointed which equates to one per 50 schools.</li> <li>➤ Drop in advice service.</li> </ul> <p>JH enquired about the support for victims. DA explained the Safeguarding School Liaison Officer (SSLO) are for all, including parents/carers/school/staff etc.</p> <p>DA stated the project will be externally evaluated, the launch event took place in North Tyneside and DA was supported by L Wardingham (NTC) and member of the NTSCB Training Sub-Group. Questions from the board included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Is there an expectation that schools will share information?</li> <li>➤ Are special schools included? DA answered yes and OE ambassadors have been appointed (John Lines)</li> <li>➤ What would success look like? DA answered work is on-going to develop meaningful measurements on specific aspects of the project.</li> <li>➤ Is there sufficient capacity with the current number of SSLOs? DA stated the need for more but there was not additional funding at present.</li> <li>➤ Have the materials for key stages 1-4 been piloted? DA stated this had been done by Barnardo's and the PHSE association have produced materials to support this area of work.</li> <li>➤ What happens outside of the school terms? DA stated work was on-going to address this issue.</li> <li>➤ What happens after the one year funding arrangements cease? DA explained the funding applications and timeframes of the current funding rounds. DA explained the roles of the schools and looking at funding options for continuation of the SSLOs</li> </ul> <p>AY highlighted the emerging changes with the PHSE agenda. DA explained the new project supports the new changes.</p> <p>DA confirmed the planned timetable for the SSLOs as 4 visits per academic year, including drop in sessions, and explained the role of the</p>	

	<p>OE ambassadors, and school staff.</p> <p>AY highlighted a particular problem in some local schools relating to receiving the phone call as it could be after the agreed time which mean that this potentially undermined the intended outcomes. DA stated that there are local challenges with the national model and work is needed to find a solution.</p> <p>DA enquired about a local Operation Encompass Steering Group and suggested that local challenges were dealt with by this group. Agreed that SB would find out more about the steering group.</p> <p>JS highlighted the usefulness of a joined approach to the work the NSPCC work in schools. RB highlighted the cross over with JF's CSC presentation which also demonstrated targeted approaches to areas of vulnerability and he felt it was important to be assured that there was a good level of integration between locally driven and Police driven initiatives</p> <p><b>Action:</b> RB asked for the Operation Encompass Steering Group to report back to the NTSCB or MASA within 6 months.</p> <p><b>5.2 Performance Report Q3</b></p> <p>RB asked SB to present the QILP report to members. SB stated there had been one meeting of the QILP sub group to look at the Q3 data. SB highlighted that the review of the data had established the high priority issues identified in previous quarters remain areas which require monitoring. There are three key issues:</p> <p><b>Key Issue 1 – Increased safeguarding activity</b></p> <p>SB reported no further issues had been identified and figures for Return Interviews had been requested as QILP had noticed a decline in the number of RIs. SB explained children should be offered an interview. It had been agreed for NTC CSC to review the data and report back to QILP.</p> <p>RB reminded members of the views young people shared at the 2017 conference about the importance placed on return interviews. SB explained the qualitative aspects of the report and the new system difficulties to extract data. JF confirmed this and stated data will be available for the next QILP meeting. RB highlighted the need to demonstrate the learning gained from the return interviews and hoped the system difficulties will be addressed.</p> <p><b>Key Issue 2 – High Level of Demand for Mental Health Services</b></p> <p>SB informed members that there was no representation at the QILP meeting from CAMHS. Information had been supplied to the sub group and the data differences had been attributed to better recording. SB stated CAMHS to attend the next QILP meeting and co-present a report to the next NTSCB meeting which would be a thematic meeting looking at mental health.</p> <p><b>Key Issue 3 – Rise in Sexual Offences Against Children</b></p> <p>SB described the resource challenges of the Police to fully interrogate past data and the new systems which are in place. RB asked for clarification on this re the report on HMICFRS. SB stated further data will be made available. EM stated new systems will allow for better reporting.</p>	<p>SB</p>
--	---	-----------



Other areas of work from the QILP included GP participation at CPCs. SB highlighted the audit results from January 2019 and reported the results to members and reported an increase in participation. JH asked for clarification on the GP completion of the CPC report template. SB confirmed the templates were being completed but not shared with the CPC. MV stated the GPs are clear that they complete the template. SB confirmed this and stated this feedback has been given to the GPs representative on the sub-group. RB asked for clarification on what happens when a report is not received at a CPC. SB explained that NTC CSC was looking into this and will report back. JH asked about a repeat audit once CSC has completed their investigation. RB summarised that this reflected some progress in the goal of ensuring that GP's and other professionals were able to contribute in as full and timely way to these important meetings, as he was sure the Board remained concerned to be assured that the fullest information was available as this supported high quality considerations and decisions. RB stated that there was some effective scrutiny going on and thanked the QILP sub group for their work.

### **5.3 Section 11 Schools**

RB commented on the full report which he hoped members would agree was accessible. SB stated the audit template had been updated from previous year to take into account the changes for Keeping Children Safe in Education legislation. SB stated the audit had been distributed to special independent schools and the FE college in the borough for the first time. She reported on the 100% return rate and the overall level of compliance across all standards as good. SB explained that further work was to be done to compare the results with previous years and identify any emerging themes.

SB highlighted the training and policy updates as an issue and that these were highlighted in the 2018 audit and the recommendations of this report which are:

- Training and support to help all schools meet the minimum requirements of some of the more challenging standards
- Sharing information – which could be done via the DSLs

SB informed members that the full report will be presented to Head Teachers

MV commented on the 100%return rate and the 91% compliance rate with the Green rating for the standards. Also the fact that the board needs to highlight the good work and good practice that goes on to safeguard children and young people. MV also mentioned the evidence captured within the SCRs of the good practice that is happening in our schools. RB stated it was a cause for celebration and stated that the good practice needs to be shared and there was suggestion that this could be done via the NTSCB website and a S11 briefing could be produced.

SB highlighted the previous year Amber rated standards had now shown an improvement and noted that learning indicated that trend

<p>analysis was only one part of the picture as variation year on year was not necessarily negative as a changed rating could be evidence of pro active learning and action.</p> <p>AY explained the possible reasons for previous year's non-completions. SB stated the report had been shared with the other LSCBs in the region and they did not appear to have the evidence of this level of co operation and self assessment.</p> <p>RB asked if members were in agreement to take forward the recommendations</p> <p><b>ACTION</b> - this was agreed for <b>RB to discuss this with AY and DB.</b></p> <p><b>5.4 CDOP</b></p> <p>RB highlighted the process gone through for the North and South Tyne footprint for CDOP moving forward. Board members were informed that NTCCG have led on the initiative and secured a commitment to E-CDOP and leaning towards a single approach.</p> <p>JH updated members on the development of the business case for E-CDOP and stated the North of Tyne process mapping work is on-going and proposals will go to the Child Death Review partners.</p> <p>RB stated from a NTSCB perspective support will continue for the existing arrangements until MASA is agreed and the local authority and CCG are responsible for the future CDOP arrangements.</p> <p>MV asked about the future funding for this and explained historic CDOP funding. SB explained the local authority historically received government funding which was ring-fenced but this funding no longer exists.</p> <p>RB stated NTSCB has a right to be consulted on future CDOP arrangements as we will need to plan for transition.</p> <p>MV described the lack of meaningful data and the need to challenge how CDOP safeguards children. RB asked MV is he thought the NTSCB should scrutinise CDOP in the future. SB mentioned Public Health and the safeguarding role. JH stated this is in guidance and not a statutory safeguarding role. RB summarised that until September the Board needed to continue to support and be assured that the North of Tyne arrangements were effective and subject to Board scrutiny and assurance. It is hoped that the LA's and CCG's reached a clear agreement for the new arrangements by September, including how these would be funded.</p> <p><b>5.5 North Tyneside Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements</b></p> <p>RB explained the current position and options for North Tyneside. JF highlighted the potential short survey to the workforce in relation to identifying the key areas of future work.</p> <p>RB brought forward item 6.1 into the discussion and informed members that all safeguarding partners had agreed to a wider footprint approach but also value the locally based arrangements. The six local authorities were planning to a common format. RB stated this hinges on</p>	<p><b>RB/AY/ DB</b></p>
---	-----------------------------

	<p>agreement across all key partner agencies (6 LA's, 5 CCG's and Northumbria Police)  RB stated the NTSCB will probably continue until September 2019 in its current form and a plan needs to be in place by end of June 2019.  JH asked about the joining of sub groups. RB stated that once the 6 local plans had been shared it may be possible to see whether there are opportunities for shared and different ways of implementing the new arrangements which will be different in some respects to what we have now. MV stated that there has not been agreement of a wider footprint. RB stated the forum consists of the six local authorities; the 5 CCG's and Police. MV challenged the need for a local focus and highlighted the risk of losing the local perspective and the additional layer of work if a wider footprint was adopted. RB commented on MV's valid view and reflected that this was one element in the ongoing negotiations. RB declared independence and neutrality on this on the basis that he chairs the regional forum and that the future shape of arrangements passed to the 3 statutory partners.</p> <p><b>5.6 Annual Report</b>  RB informed members of the requirement to produce an annual report for 2018 -19. SB suggested a draft be presented to the July meeting. This was agreed.</p>	<p>SB</p>
<p>6</p>	<p><b>Items for information</b></p>	
	<p>6.1 see above under 5.5</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p><b>Partners Reports</b></p>	
	<p><b>7.1 HMICFRS</b>  EM reported on the second inspection and summarised the feedback as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ HMICFRS found the Force had acknowledged and responded to all recommendations in the 2018 inspection.</li> <li>➤ The Force continues to demonstrate a commitment to deliver quality service.</li> <li>➤ There were some strategic challenges with data quality.</li> <li>➤ A noticeable step change in the application of THRIVE</li> <li>➤ Significant improvements from the time of the last visit in missing from home, not just the removal of the absent category</li> </ul> <p>EM explained the investment in operating platforms and improvements related to the MASH arrangements. RB asked about work with six MASH and the requirements for them to work in a consistent way</p> <p><b>7.2 Additional item requested by PE related to Operation Sanctuary.</b>  EM stated he had been asked to update members on Operation Sanctuary and the failings by Police. EM explained the situation and the reasons why the case was thrown out of court.  PE explained the reasons for the request and the concern about the perpetrators being back in the street and how children can be protected and the concerns of the public addressed.  EM stated a review was taking place and will be reported. Work is taking</p>	

	<p>place to track perpetrators and the risk will be managed and there was massive disappointment throughout the Force. RB stated NTSCB would welcome the opportunity to support the Police with this matter and linked it back to the HMICFRS item and recognition that systems needed to be improved and the report states that progress is being made.</p> <p>SB asked further questions re HMICFRS report and about Appropriate Adults and YOT managers. RB stated it has been agreed to address the issues through the forum.</p> <p>PX stated all six authorities dispute the data and the challenges of 24 hour provision. PX stated North Tyneside's 24hr provision has been implemented. PX stated he was well working closely with this situation and will provide a report to the NTSCB in July 2019.</p>	<b>PX</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Planned or deferred items</b> <b>None</b>	
<b>9</b>	<b>AOB - none</b>	

Date and time of next meeting:  
**20<sup>th</sup> May 2019 Langdale Centre 13:00 – 15:30**